



EUROPEAN UNION

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**Statement by the High Representative, Catherine Ashton,  
on the Political Agreement on the GCC initiative  
for peaceful transition in Yemen**

Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, made today the following statement:

*"I welcome the news that both the ruling party and the opposition coalition have accepted the GCC transition plan proposed on Thursday 21 April, including its provision for the rapid formation of a national unity government.*

*I would like to thank the GCC for its hard work towards securing political agreement for transition in Yemen. I believe that the GCC initiative represents the best chance for Yemen to address the economic, social and security challenges ahead, and to avoid escalation of violence.*

*I urge all parties to move quickly to finalise the agreement, and to work together for the benefit of all Yemeni people."*

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**P R E S S**

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FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 299 97 80 - [Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu)  
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - [Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu)  
[COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu](mailto:COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu)  
[www.eeas.europa.eu](http://www.eeas.europa.eu)

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